

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01

ACDA-19 /185 W

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R 060230ZJUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2669

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

S E C R E T JAKARTA 6886

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EGEN, PFOR, ID, VS

SUBJ: INDONESIA AND VIETNAM

REF: JAKARTA 6571 SAIGON 7189

1. WE WELCOME AMBASSADOR MARTIN'S COMMENTS ON OUR
QUARTERLY ASSESSMENT.

2. INTENTION OF OUR ASSESSMENT WAS TO STIMULATE REACTION
BY SEEKING TO PROJECT VALUE OF INDONESIA TO OUR OWN
OBJECTIVES BOTH NOW AND IN FUTURE. WE WERE TALKING ABOUT
OUTER LIMITS, NOT CURRENT CONCLUSIONS. WE CONCLUDED
THAT, AS FAR AS VIET NAM IS CONCERNED, INDONESIA WAS
NOT LIKELY TO STAY WITH US IN EVENT SERIOUS DETERIORATION
OR ADVERSE TURN OF EVENTS, NOR WOULD INDONESIA BE
LIKELY PURSUE ACTIVE EFFORT AMONG OTHER THIRD WORLD OR
COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IN SUPPORT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF
PARIS AGREEMENTS OR SAIGON REGIME. WE CONJECTURED THAT
IF INDONESIA WAS PREPARED TO BE AS ACTIVE ON BEHALF OF
SAIGON AND PARIS AGREEMENTS AS THEY HAVE BEEN ON
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CAMBODIA, THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL TO OUR OBJECTIVES.

3. PERTINENT TO THIS IS CONVERSATION I HAD JUNE 5 WITH ZAINUL ARIFIN SAMIL WHO WILL SHORTLY REPLACE AMBASSADOR IDRIS IN SAIGON. SAMIL SAID THERE ARE TWO SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT IN INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT RE VIETNAM. ONE SEES LITTLE PROSPECT OF SAIGON HOLDING OUT AGAINST ULTIMATE HANOI VICTORY. ANOTHER -- AND THAT HOLDING BALANCE IN CURRENT POLICY -- BELIEVES SAIGON CAN HOLD OUT FOR NEXT TEN YEARS. IF ASSESSMENT SHOULD CHANGE, HOWEVER, SAMIL SAID INDONESIA WOULD NOT WISH CONTINUE ITS INVOLVEMENT.

4. AMBASSADOR MARTIN IS CORRECT THAT WE HAVE CONTINUING PROBLEM HERE IN KEEPING REALITIES BEFORE INDONESIANS. SAMILWQ FOR EXAMPLE, SAID THAT INDONESIA WAS CONSTANTLY RECEIVING PESSIMISTIC REPORTS ABOUT PRESENT SITUATION IN SAIGON AND MENTIONED ONE BY PROFESSOR TRAEGER WITH RAND CORPORATION. INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT, AFTER RECEIPT THIS REPORT, MADE ITS OWN ASSESSMENT WHICH WAS MORE OPTIMISTIC. IT IS CLEAR GOI CONTINUING READ ALL ASSESSMENTS AND IS ACUTELY SENSITIVE TO EVENTS IN SAIGON. ACCORDING LOCAL SAIGON REPRESENTATIVE NORTH VIETNAM AND NORTH KOREAN EMBASSIES ACTIVELY UNDERMINING HIS POSITION AND HE HAS SEEN DETERIORATION IN HIS RECEPTION HERE DURING PAST FEW MONTHS. PRESS AND RADIO ACCOUNTS OF MILITARY REVERSES AND INCREASED FIGHTING IN VIETNAM DO NOT HELP -- AND ONE RESULT IS INCREASED CONCERN RE CASUALTIES TO INDONESIAN PERSONNEL. THERE IS, IN FACT, LITTLE THAT REACHES JAKARTA TODAY IN PUBLIC DOMAIN WHICH SUGGESTS TIDE IS RUNNING IN FAVOR OF SAIGON. WE IN EMBASSY ARE PREPARED TO PROVIDE SUCH EVIDENCE, BUT TOO MUCH OF WHAT WE RECEIVE IS CLASSIFIED NOFORN. THIS WAS ONE REASON WE REQUESTED DEPARTMENT TO SEND U EXPERT CURRENTLY WORKING ON PROBLEM TO GIVE UP TO DATE BRIEFING.

5. RE SUGGESTION EMBASSY JAKARTA REPRESENTATIVES VISIT SAIGON, WE ARE STILL AWAITING REPLY TO OUR LETTER OF MARCH 1 TO EMBASSY SAIGON REQUESTING ADVICE AS TO CONVENIENT DATES FOR VISIT.

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